

**Governor Baldacci's
Task Force Promoting Safer Chemicals in Consumer Products and
Services**

**Monday, January 8, 2007 1:30 PM-3:30 PM
Room 105 Cross Office Building, Augusta, Maine
Handout AGENDA**

1:30-1:35 PM - Welcome and introductions as needed

1:35- 1:50 PM – Distribution of Final Version of Interim Report (Email version will be sent out to you by Friday noon)

1:50-3:25 PM – Develop meeting plan through October 1, 2007 and determine and develop subcommittees. See attached planning calendar. Please be thinking about your priorities for meetings topics

3:25- 3:30 PM- Wrap up

Task Force Promoting Safer Chemicals in Consumer Products and Services Duties

The purpose of the Task Force is to identify and promote the use and development of safer alternatives to hazardous chemicals in consumer goods and services made, provided or sold in Maine so as to benefit public health, the environment and the economy for all Maine people. The specific duties of the Task Force are to:

- i) Survey relevant knowledge and activities related to promoting safer alternatives to priority chemicals in the areas of environmental public health policy development, green chemistry research and development, and economic incentives;
- ii) Develop recommendations for a more comprehensive chemicals policy that requires safer substitutes to priority chemicals in consumer products and creates incentives to develop safer alternatives, on a state and regional basis;
- iii) Develop recommendations on expanded consumer education, retailer education and training, supply chain information and public right-to-know in order to promote markets for safer alternatives;
- iv) Develop recommendations for submission to the Maine Science and Technology Advisory Council on expanded research and development of safer alternatives to priority chemicals in consumer products, including investment in green chemistry research and development and the possibility of developing bio-based plastics from Maine-based agricultural and forest products.

Scope

For purposes of this Executive Order, the term "priority chemicals" includes substances and their breakdown products including PBTs, very persistent and very bioaccumulative (vPvB) chemicals, carcinogens, mutagens or reproductive toxins (CMRs), neurotoxins, and endocrine disrupting chemicals (EDCs) that have been demonstrated by biomonitoring studies to be present in human tissues and fluids, that are produced in high volumes or used in ways that may result in high exposures, or that pose generally equivalent concerns as determined by the state's qualified experts or by a body considered to be authoritative by such experts. Priority chemicals include, but are not limited to, toxic substances listed by the DEP in its programs that address toxic releases, air toxics and water toxics. For purposes of this Executive Order, "consumer products" means items or materials sold or distributed for residential or commercial use, but excludes those intended exclusively for industrial use.

Reports

The Task Force shall submit an interim report to the Governor by November 30, 2006 and a final **report by October 1, 2007**. Each of these reports shall include recommendations, including proposed legislation, for safer chemicals policy development and consumer education and related information as required under Duties b.ii and b.iii in this section. The Task Force shall also submit interim recommendations by November 30, 2006 and final recommendations by October 1, 2007 to the Maine Science and Technology Advisory Council on expanded research and development opportunities as required under Duties b.iv in this section. Upon submission of the final report and the final recommendations, the Task Force shall dissolve.